

FOUNDATION FOR RELIGIOUS ACTION
IN THE SOCIAL AND CIVIL ORDER

CHARLES WESLEY LOWRY, PH.D. (OXON.)
CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EDWARD L. R. ELSON, D.D., LITT.D.
CO-CHAIRMAN

DUPONT CIRCLE BUILDING
1346 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.
TELEPHONE: ADAMS 2-1256

September 29, 1954

The Honorable Allen Dulles
Director, C.I.A.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

A National Conference on THE SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY will be held in Washington D. C. at the Hotel Sheraton-Carlton on November 8-10, 1954 beginning at 6:30 P. M., Monday, November 8.

The Conference is being sponsored by the FOUNDATION FOR RELIGIOUS ACTION IN THE SOCIAL AND CIVIL ORDER. The idea of the Conference had its origin in a conversation which Dr. Elson had with his parishioner President Eisenhower. The President in a letter dated April 17, 1954 expressed his interest in the following gracious and stirring words:

" . . . Certainly, there is need for us constantly to remind ourselves that the American heritage is strongly spiritual. Our government has logically been described as a translation into the political field of a deeply held religious faith. This faith holds that man is created in the image of God, and from this fundamental concept springs our dedication to the principle of and our belief in equality under the law, justice, mercy, and brotherhood of man.

"I am informed that the Foundation has already enlisted much support among American leaders and that plans are under way for a National Conference . . . I look upon this purpose as completely laudatory and worthwhile, and hope that its work will benefit from the cooperation and support of all those who will be called upon to help achieve successful results."

The purpose of this letter is to invite you very cordially to attend the NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY. Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, Dr. Elton Trueblood, His Excellency Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle, and Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld join me in extending you this invitation.

For your information I enclose a Program and a copy of a descriptive brochure (shortly to be printed) presenting the aims and program of the Foundation For Religious Action In the Social and Civil Order.

"To make religious truth an effective force for the promotion of ordered freedom and

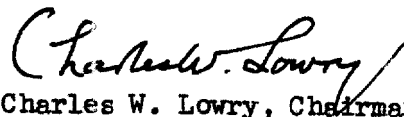
-2-

All sessions of the Conference will be held at the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, Washington D. C. A limited number of rooms are being reserved for members of the Conference at the flat rate of \$10.00 for singles, \$12.00 for twin bedded rooms. Members of the Conference desiring to stay at the Sheraton-Carlton are asked to reserve their rooms through the Foundation and to indicate whether they desire a single room, a twin bedded room, or one half of a twin bedded room provided there are other members of the Conference likewise desirous of availing themselves of such an economy. There is of course no obligation to stay at the Sheraton-Carlton and members of the Conference will be entirely free to make their own hotel arrangements or to stay with friends.

As membership in the Conference must necessarily be limited, your prompt acceptance of this invitation, or indication of inability to attend, will be much appreciated.

Hoping to see you in November,

Sincerely,


Charles W. Lowry, Chairman

Enclosures (2)